

**Enrolled Minutes of the Eighty-Third Regular or Special Meeting
For the Twenty-Seventh Highland Town Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 09, 2015**

Study Session. The Twenty-Seventh Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in a study session preceding the regular meeting on Monday, March 09, 2015 at 6:40 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the meeting chambers of the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

Silent Roll Call: Councilors Bernie Zemen, Mark Herak, Dan Vassar, and Steve Wagner, were present. Councilor Konnie Kuiper was absent owing to work. The Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

General Substance of Matters Discussed.

1. The Town Council discussed the agenda of the imminent regular meeting.
2. The Town Council discussed a parking issue at the apartments located on Forrest Drive off 45th Avenue near Witham's Fueling Station, in which vehicles were parking in the parkway.
3. The Town Council discussed the fact that windows were still boarded up at the site of the former Abrahamson's Motors on Indianapolis Boulevard. This is prohibited under the building maintenance code.

The study session ended at 6:59 O'clock p.m.

Regular meeting. The Twenty Seventh Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular session on Monday, March 09, 2015 at 7:00 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the plenary meeting chambers of the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

The Town Council President, Mark A. Herak, presided and the Town Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin, was present to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Dan Vassar reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and offering a prayer.

Roll Call: Present on roll call were Councilors Mark Herak, Dan Vassar, Steve Wagner, and Bernie Zemen. Councilor Konnie Kuiper was absent owing to a work conflict. The Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

Additional Officials Present: Rhett L. Tauber, Town Attorney; John Bach, Public Works Director; Peter Hojnicky, Metropolitan Police Chief; Kenneth Mika, Building Commissioner; William R. Timmer, Jr., CFOD, Fire Chief; Alex M. Brown, CPRP, Parks and Recreation Superintendent; and Cecile Petro, Redevelopment Director were present.

Also present: Steve Mileusnich and Susan Murovic of the Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals; Ed Dabrowski IT Director (Contract); and Randy Bowman, Assistant Inspector for Electrical; Denise Jacobs, Senior Chancery/Bursar Clerk and Bridget DeYoung of the Town Theater Board were also present.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings:

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 23, 2015 were approved by general consent.

Staff Reports:

• **Building & Inspection Report for February 2015**

Permit Type	Numb.	Residential	Commercial	Est. Cost	Fees
Commercial Buildings:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Commercial Additions or Remodeling:	2	0	2	\$120,900.00	\$1,647.50
Signs:	6	0	6	\$30,940.00	\$1,835.00
Single Family:	1	1	0	\$357,000.00	\$4,159.00
Duplex/Condo:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Residential Additions:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Residential Remodeling:	19	19	0	\$181,079.00	\$3,109.50
Garages:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sheds:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Decks & Porches:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fences	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Swimming Pools	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Drain Tile/ Waterproofing	1	1	0	\$6,956.00	\$139.00
Miscellaneous	2	2	0	\$168,435.00	\$2,138.00
TOTAL:	31	23	8	\$865,310.00	\$13,028.00
Electrical Permits	19	16	3		\$1,309.50
Mechanical Permits	17	11	6		\$1,444.50
Plumbing Permits	12	9	3		\$1,514.85
Water Meters	6	3	3		\$1,755.00
Water Taps	1	1	0		\$200.00
Sewer/Storm Taps	2	2	0		\$600.00
TOTAL Plumbing:	21	15	6		\$4,069.85

February Code Enforcement:

Investigations: 211
 Citations: 85

February Inspections:

Building: 17 Electrical: 22 Plumbing: 11 HVAC 12
 Electrical Exam: 1

• **Building & Inspection Report for January 2015**

Permit Type	Numb.	Residential	Commercial	Est. Cost	Fees
Commercial Buildings:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Commercial Additions or Remodeling:	1	0	1	\$20,000.00	\$463.50
Signs:	8	0	8	\$57,661.00	\$2,608.00
Single Family:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Duplex/Condo:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Residential Additions:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Residential Remodeling:	24	24	0	\$170,773.00	\$3,123.50
Garages:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sheds:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Decks & Porches:	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00

Fences	4	4	0	\$10,790.00	\$391.00
Swimming Pools	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
DrainTile/ Waterproofing	6	6	0	\$70,839.00	\$1,175.00
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL:	43	34	9	\$330,063.00	\$7,761.00
Electrical Permits	31	25	6		\$1,863.00
Mechanical Permits	17	14	3		\$1,303.00
Plumbing Permits	1	0	1		\$74.00
Water Meters	4	2	2		\$1,170.00
Water Taps	0	0	0		\$0.00
Sewer/Storm Taps	0	0	0		\$0.00
TOTAL Plumbing:	5	2	3		\$1,244.00

January Code Enforcement:

Investigations: 197
Citations: 73

January Inspections:

Building: 23 Electrical: 43 Plumbing: 9 HVAC 27
Electrical Exam: 0

• **Fire Department Report for February 2015**

	Month	1st half of year
General Alarms	6	12
Still Alarms	8	13
Paid still alarms	6	9
Total:	20	

• **Workplace Safety Report for February 2015**

There was one incident. The following incident summary was filed:

Department	Injuries this Month	Year to Date 2015	Total in 2014	Restricted Days 2015	Lost Workdays This Year (2015)	Restricted Days Last Year (2014)	Lost Workdays Last Year (2014)
Parks	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Fire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Police	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Street	1	2	2	0	0	0	0
Water & Sewer	0	0	7	0	0	170	56
Maint.	0	0	3	0	0	35	47
Other	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1	2	16	0	0	205	104

Effective January 1, 2002, OSHA changed the record keeping guidelines. The municipality now counts the number of days lost from the day after the injury until the employee returns to work. Weekend, holidays, vacation days or other days scheduled off are included in the lost days count to a maximum of 180 days.

Appointments:

• **Statutory Boards and Commissions**

Legislative Appointments

Home Rule Commissions

1. **Main Street Bureau Board:** (17) appointments to be made by the Town Council. Term: Two years ending 1 Jan 2017. *(Note: 10 incumbents terms expiring with two wishing not to be reappointed and another seven positions unfilled. Current posts held by Allencia Ballard, Darlene S. Barron, Vickie Rust, Daniel Dunn, Robert Breitweiser, Sean Kingston, Carole Kutcka, and Mario De George with Shirley Frankiewicz and Thomas Frankiewicz not seeking reappointment.)*

Councilor Zemen moved, seconded by Councilor Vassar, that the following be appointed to the Main Street Bureau Board of Directors. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The following were duly and appointed.

1. Darlene Barron, 8423 Gordon Drive, Highland, Indiana 46322
2. Daniel Dunn, 9313 Magnolia Lane, Munster, Indiana 46321
3. Tracy Oprea, 8424 Delaware Place, Highland, Indiana 46322
4. Julie Larson, 3727 41st Lane, Highland, Indiana 46322
5. Alicia Rosignol, 8951 Highland Street, Highland, Indiana 46322
6. Jennifer Duncan, 3222 Farmer Drive, Highland, Indiana 46322
7. Marion D. Case, 10036 Prairie Circle, Highland, Indiana 46322
8. Mario De George, 3744 Wirth Road, Highland, Indiana 46322
9. Marie Russo, 2185 Ramblewood Drive, Highland, Indiana 46322
10. Dawn Diamantopolous, 2622 Wicker Avenue, Highland, Indiana 46322

Unfinished Business and General Orders:

1. **Consideration of the Compliance with the Statement of Benefits as filed and represented by High RE 3940, LLC d.b.a., Culver's 3950 Ridge Road, Highland.** At its meeting of January 30, 2012, the Highland Town Council approved this application for property tax abatement upon the increase in assessed value in consequence of construction of a new building a Culver's Restaurant 3940 and 3950 Ridge Road, for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) calendar years, according to the schedule in IC 6-1.1-12.1-4(d)(10), subject to continuing compliance with the statement of benefits, IC 6-1.1-12.1 et seq., and terms of the approving resolution. This represents the first review of compliance for this property.

The Redevelopment Director offered a report on the status of compliance. She recommending finding favorably.

Councilor Zemen moved, seconded by Councilor Vassar to find the abatement in compliance with the statement of benefits and to permit the abatement to continue. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The property owner was in compliance with the terms of the statement of benefits and the abatement was permitted to continue.

2. **Consideration of the Compliance with the Statement of Benefits as filed and represented by Baldi-Hoobyar Equities Indiana LLC d.b.a., Highland Volkswagen,**

9601 Indianapolis Boulevard, Highland. At its meeting of October 10, 2012 and confirmed at its meeting of December 10, 2012, the Highland Town Council approved this application for property tax abatement upon the increase in assessed value in consequence of construction of a new building a Volkswagen Retail Dealership, 9601,9553 and 9545 Indianapolis Boulevard, Highland, for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) calendar years, according to the schedule in IC 6-1.1-12.1-4(d)(10), subject to continuing compliance with the statement of benefits, IC 6-1.1-12.1 et seq., and terms of the approving resolution. This represents the first review of compliance for this property.

It was noted that Mr. Hoobyar was present for the action by the Town Council.

The Redevelopment Director offered a report on the status of compliance. She recommending finding favorably.

Councilor Wagner moved, seconded by Councilor Vassar to find the abatement in compliance with the statement of benefits and to permit the abatement to continue. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The property owner was in compliance with the terms of the statement of benefits and the abatement was permitted to continue.

3. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1586:** An Ordinance to Amend Sections 12.05.120 (B)(3) and (D)(9) of the Highland Municipal Code Regarding the Department of Waterworks Regarding Certain Rates and Charges, all Pursuant to IC 36-1-4, IC 36-1-5, IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and IC 8-1,5-4 et seq. *(The Board of Waterworks Directors passed and adopted Water Resolution No. 2015-03 amending its rules regarding change to private fire protection and NSF Check administrative charges and recommending this Ordinance for hearing and adoption. Pursuant to the terms of IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and Section 12.05.080(I) of the municipal code, this matter can only be introduced and set for public hearing. No further action may be taken. If introduced, a public hearing will be conducted on this ordinance at the Town Council meeting of Monday, March 23.)*

Councilor Wagner introduced and filed the ordinance. There was no further action.

4. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1587:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10.45 of the Highland Municipal Code Regarding the Traffic Safety Commission for the Town of Highland, Indiana, Repealing all Ordinances in Conflict.

Councilor Vassar introduced and moved the consideration at the same meeting of introduction of Ordinance No. 1587. Councilor Zemen seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The ordinance could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Vassar moved the passage and adoption at the same meeting of introduction of Ordinance No. 1587. Councilor Wagner seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The ordinance could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

ORDINANCE NO. 1587
of the
TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10.45 OF THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

and **WHEREAS,** The Town Council of the Town of Highland is the municipal legislative body of the unit;

WHEREAS, With the passage of time various Ordinances, Codes, and Procedures of the Town of Highland must be amended; and

WHEREAS, With the passage of time various practices, policies, and procedures must be updated; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council is interested in amending the Traffic Safety Commission Code to protect the public health, safety and welfare in all traffic safety programs to meet local needs, among others things; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council desires to amend the Traffic Safety Commission Code in order to insure public health, safety and welfare insofar as they are affected by traffic laws and traffic safety education within the Town of Highland, Indiana, and to provide that vehicle operators that do not comply with these provisions shall be penalized to provide a minimum level of health and safety as required herein;

WHEREAS, The Town Council desires to repeal portions of Chapter 10.45 in order to further perfect its organization and operation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 10.45.030 (A) of the Highland Municipal Code be repealed in its entirety and be amended with a successor section, which shall be styled as 10.45.030 (A) and shall read as follows:

10.45.030 Organization of commission.

(A) Membership.

(1) The commission shall consist of no less than six members, consisting of **five persons representing the following departments or bodies:**

~~(a) One from town council.~~

(a) Two from police department.

(b) One from fire department.

(c) One from department of public works.

(d) One ~~police commissioner~~ **from the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners.**

(2) **The commission shall also consist of a representative from the Town Council, which may be held by a single member or alternating between several members of the Town Council as the Town Council may direct. Only one member at any given time may participate in a meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission.**

~~-(2)~~ (3) The members of the commission shall be appointed by the Town Council **and serve at its pleasure. The members described in subdivision (A)(1) and shall be appointed for serve a yearly three year term, expiring on from the First Monday in January 1st through December 31st**, and until their successors are appointed and qualified, unless removed from the commission.

(4) **The member(s) described in subdivision (A)(2) shall be appointed for a term co-extensive with the member's or members' term of office on the Town Council, unless the Town Council at its first regular meeting in any year, appoints another to serve as its representative(s).**

Section 2. That the members serving on the Traffic Safety Commission at the time of the passage and adoption of this amendment shall continue to serve according to the terms of this amendment and for those members to whom it applies, shall serve a term ending on the first Monday in January 2018 and until a successor is appointed and qualified.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage and adoption as evidenced by the signature of the Town Council President and attested thereto by the Clerk-Treasurer, all pursuant to IC 36-5-2-10 and IC 36-5-2-10.2.

Introduced and Filed on the 9th Day of March 2015. Consideration on the same day or at same meeting of introduction sustained a vote of 4 in favor and 0 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8.

DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED this 9th Day of February 2015, by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 opposed.

TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Mark A. Herak, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

ATTEST:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/CPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

Based upon the passage and adoption of Ordinance No. 1587, the Town Council President suggested that the matter of appointing the alternate Town Council member to the Traffic Safety Commission be taken up. There was no objection.

Traffic Safety Commission Appointment: (If Ordinance No. 1587 is adopted) Name the Town Councilor(s) that may serve on the commission. It can be more than one.

Councilor Vassar moved that **Councilor Bernie Zemen** join **Councilor Konnie Kuiper** as the members representing the Town Council on the Traffic Safety Commission. Councilor Wagner seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The named councilors were appointed.

5. **Works Board Order No. 2015-04:** An Order Authorizing and Approving a Contribution to the Highland Chamber of Commerce, in support of Its Best of Highland Awards Event, Particularly authorizing payment of event admission for Highland Employees and Officers named as Finalists.

Councilor Vassar moved the passage and adoption of Works Board Order No. 2015-04. Councilor Zemen seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The order was adopted.

THE TOWN of HIGHLAND
WORKS BOARD ORDER NO. 2015-04

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING and APPROVING a CONTRIBUTION to the HIGHLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, in support OF ITS BEST OF HIGHLAND AWARDS EVENT, PARTICULARLY AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF EVENT ADMISSION FOR HIGHLAND EMPLOYEES AND OFFICERS NAMED AS FINALISTS.

Whereas, The Town Council for the Town of Highland is the Legislative and Fiscal Body of the Municipality as well as the works board pursuant to IC 36-1-2 et seq., and

Whereas, The Highland Chamber of Commerce, an Incorporated Association comprised of Representatives in the business sector of the Town, organized and conducted a first ever Best of Highland Awards Event, which had as its purpose the salutary recognition of individuals in the private and public sectors of the Town; and

Whereas, The Highland Chamber of Commerce, included the category entitled "Civil Servants, in which eighteen employees or officers of the Town of Highland were named as finalists in one of several subcategories;

Whereas, Under its authority of IC 36-1-3, The Town passed and adopted Section 2.35.030 of the Highland Municipal Code which provides in pertinent part that the Town Council is authorized to budget and appropriate funds from the general fund of the town to pay the expenses "*incurred in promoting the best interests of the town*" and that such expenses may include, but not necessarily be limited to those incurred in developing relations with other organizations oriented to advancing the positive community interest of Highland or any other expenses of civic or governmental nature deemed by the Town Council to be in the interests of the Town; and

Whereas, The Highland Chamber of Commerce, has requested that the tickets for each finalist be supported by the Town in order to promote the event's success, and to remove any economic barrier to award finalists who have an affiliation with the Town, that may bar participation;

Whereas, The Town Council has reviewed the matter, and in the interest of goodwill, comity and support of the Highland Chamber of Commerce and its Best of Highland Awards Event, now desires and elects

to authorize and approve contributions to Highland Chamber of Commerce in support of its Best of Highland Awards Event, with such contributions to be for the purchase of the event ticket in the amount of forty dollars (\$40.00) for each Highland municipal employee or officer named a finalist in consequence of the *Best of Highland Awards* and who also attends the event;

Now Therefore Be it hereby Ordered by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana;

Section 1. That in the interest of goodwill, comity and support of the Highland Chamber of Commerce and its Second Annual *Best of Highland Awards Event*, the Highland Town Council now does authorize and approve elective contributions to Highland Chamber of Commerce in support of its Best of Highland Awards Event, provided as follows:

- (a) That such elective contributions be based upon and in support of the purchase of the event ticket in the amount of forty dollars (\$40.00) for each Highland municipal volunteer, employee or officer named a finalist, *as depicted on the accompanying exhibit, which is affixed and made a part of this order*; and
- (b) **That volunteer, employee or officer of the Town named a finalist in the Best of Highland Awards must also attend the event;**

Section 2. That the Town Council hereby finds and determines that such an expense promotes the best interests of the Town, supports more perfect relations with the Highland Chamber of Commerce and is a lawful expense supporting activities which are of a civic or governmental nature;

Section 3. That the Town Council hereby further finds and determines that the number of eligible, volunteers, employees or officers is in the amount of thirteen (13) and the maximum contribution authorized by this order is fixed at five hundred, twenty dollars (\$520);

Section 4. The Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized to take such lawful steps necessary to carry out the purposes of this order.

Be it so Ordered.

DULY, PASSED and ORDERED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, this 9th day of March 2015 having passed by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Mark A. Herak, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/CPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1;IC 36-5-6-5)

CIVIL SERVANT AWARDS EXHIBIT

Civil Servant

Bridget DeYoung, Highland Redevelopment
Dawn Diamantopoulos, Highland Main Street
Richard Underkofler, Highland Community Foundation

Public Works Department

Rich Hoekstra
Bob Johnsen
Judy Vaughn

Public Safety

John Banasiak, Highland Police Department
Brandon Norris, Highland Police Department
Keith Thompson, Sr., VIPS

Parks Department

Bob Knight, Parks Director
Chris Ray, Park and Recreation Board
Katie Solina

CHAMBER AWARDS EXHIBIT

Business Person

Keith Bruxvoort, Strack & Van Til &
Highland Waterworks Board

6. **Sense of the Council Resolution No. 2015-12:** A Resolution Articulating The "Sense Of The Town Council" Regarding Its Support Of The USW Oil Workers Engaged In A Workforce Action For Fair Contracts And Safer Communities.

Councilor Wagner moved the passage and adoption of the Sense of the Council Resolution No. 2015-12. Councilor Zemen seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The resolution was adopted.

**HIGHLAND TOWN COUNCIL
Resolution No 2015-12**

A RESOLUTION ARTICULATING THE "SENSE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL" REGARDING ITS SUPPORT OF THE USW OIL WORKERS ENGAGED IN A WORKFORCE ACTION FOR FAIR CONTRACTS AND SAFER COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, The Town of Highland, was incorporated to provide certain public services to the residents of this community, all of whom are also residents of this state, and Nation, for whom their elected public servants commit their judgement and industry to promote the general welfare and common public good;

WHEREAS, The Highland Town Council, as the fiscal and legislative body of the Town of Highland, from time to time, encounters issues of public import and moment which invite an expression from the elected representatives as part of the public discourse on the matter;

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 31 of the Indiana Constitution provides that no law shall restrain any of the inhabitants of the State from assembling together in a peaceable manner, to consult for their common good, nor from instructing their representatives, nor from applying to the General Assembly for redress of grievances;

WHEREAS, Thousands of USW represented oil workers across the country are currently engaged in an industry wide work action for fair contracts that improve occupational health and safety as well as the safety of the surrounding communities in which this important work is performed;

WHEREAS, In our area, 1,100 members of USW Local 7-1 have been lawfully picketing the BP refinery since February 8, 2015, for the forgoing reasons; and,

WHEREAS The Town of Highland by and through its elected officers wishes to offer a distinct, public expression on the public import of this matter,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana that it is the sense of the Town Council of Highland is as follows:

Section 1. That the Highland Town Council, offering its sense of the subject, offers the following findings:

(A) That the oil refining process involves toxic and reactive chemicals, explosive materials, extreme temperatures and high pressure;

(B) That many oil refineries are critically understaffed, forcing workers into exhausting and brutally fatiguing schedules that compromise safe productivity and increase the risk of accidents;

(C) That in the past five years, 27 workers have been killed and hundreds more seriously injured at work in the oil industry, adversely affecting families and communities in which they live;

(D) That in the past eight years, there have been 349 accidental fires reported, many of which could have resulted in massive explosions, leaks or chemical releases into the surrounding communities;

Section 2. That the Highland Town Council, offering its sense of the subject urges all the impacted parties -- oil industry management and USW worker advocates alike -- to engage in good faith negotiations for a fair collective bargaining agreement that improves the safety of local workers and their local communities;

Section 3. That the Highland Town Council, offering its sense of the subject, commends the individual working men and women who are standing together in this earnest effort to promote fairness, advance a meaningful prosperity, from the board room to the break room, a healthy workforce, a safe workplace and safe community -- an effort that serves us all;

Section 4. That the Clerk-Treasurer be hereby further instructed to transmit and forward this resolution to such persons as may be deemed to have an interest in this matter and to encourage those persons to evidence their strong desire to see the objects and purposes of this "Sense of the Council Resolution" achieved.

DULY RESOLVED and ADOPTED this 9th Day of March 2015 by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Mark A. Herak, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/CPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

7. Ratification of the Executive Session called for Monday, March 09, 2015 at 8:00 p.m.

Councilor Zemen moved to authorize and ratify the properly published Executive Session of the Town Council for Monday, March 09, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. to discuss job performance evaluation of individual employees, permitted under IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9). Councilor Vassar seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The Executive Session was ratified and approved.

8. Authorizing the proper officer to publish legal notice of public hearings to consider additional appropriations in the amount of \$10,075 in the Redevelopment General Fund.

Councilor Zemen moved to authorize the proper officer to publish legal notice as indicated. Councilor Wagner seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The publication as described was authorized.

Comments or Remarks from the Town Council:

(For the Good of the Order)

- **Councilor Bernie Zemen:** *Chamber of Commerce Co-Liaison • Liaison to the Board of Waterworks Directors; Liaison to the Park and Recreation Board; Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, Liaison.*

Councilor Zemen Acknowledged the Parks and Recreation Superintendent who noted that the Northern Indiana Parks and Recreation Association Meeting was to be convened at the Lincoln Community Center. He further noted that Recreation Supervisor Ruth Hashnu announced her resignation to take the head of the Park and Recreation Department in Merrillville.

- **Councilor Dan Vassar:** *• Redevelopment Commission Liaison.*

Councilor Vassar recognized the Redevelopment Director who offered a cursory overview of on-going redevelopment activities. The Redevelopment Director further reported that there would be an informal information-gathering meeting for the public on March 18 at 6:30 p.m.

- **Councilor Steve Wagner:** *• Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals Liaison; Information Technology Liaison.*

Councilor Wagner also acknowledged the Building Commissioner who offered a brief survey of matters associated with Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilor Kuiper arrived at this time and assumed his seat on dais.

- **Councilor Konnie Kuiper:** • *Fire Department, Liaison* • *Chamber of Commerce Co-Liaison.*

Councilor Kuiper acknowledged the Fire Chief who offered a brief report of Fire Department activity.

- **Council President Mark Herak:** *Municipal Executive* • *Budget and Finance Chair* • *Liaison to the Board of Sanitary Commissioners* • *Liaison to the Community Events Commission* • *Liaison to the Board of Waterworks Directors.*

Council President Herak acknowledged the Public Works Director, who reported on the status of projects for the Board of Waterworks Directors and the Board of Sanitary Commissioners.

Comments from Visitors or Residents:

1. Rick Volbrecht, 9221 Parkway Drive, Highland, expressed concerns about the Ordinance 1583 and its provisions mandating snow removal from sidewalks following the conclusion of a snow event. Mr. Volbrecht inquired about who was tasked or authorized to enforce the provisions. He further asked about the number of citations issued if any. He further sought clarification regarding the import of the ordinance on business sidewalks and the corridor along Indianapolis Boulevard, noting it still had significant snow piles.
2. Emmeline Daniel, _____, Highland, noted that she delivered a letter earlier today regarding her work status to the attention of the Town Council inquiring whether it was received by the members. It was noted that the letter would be distributed to the Town Council for its consideration in the Executive Session, imminently scheduled. Ms. Daniel recently experienced an un-elective separation from her position with the Town.
3. Sharron Warnecki, 3304 Condit, Highland, represented that she was a USW Oil worker affected by the BP situation. Ms. Warnecki expressed appreciation for the Town Council's passage of Resolution No. 2015-12.
4. Bridget DeYoung, 2645 37th Street, Highland, expressed disfavor that Dawn Diamantopolous was not appointed to serve as a member of the Town Theater Board of Directors. Ms. DeYoung expressed displeasure with the concern over Ms. Diamantopolous's non-appointment owing to the possible conflict of interest that could arise as she is married to an architect employed by the firm doing some preliminary design work on the project for the Redevelopment Commission. Ms. DeYoung expressed concern that Robin Carlascio of the Idea Factory was permitted to serve on the board while Idea Factory has a contract with the Town for the monthly newsletter.

Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers. There being no further comments from the public, Councilor Vassar moved to allow the vendors accounts payable vouchers as filed on the pending accounts payable docket, covering the period February 24, 2015 through March 09, 2015 as well as the payroll dockets for the paydays of February 6 and February 20, 2015. Councilor Zemen seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The accounts payable vouchers for vendors and payroll dockets were allowed, payments allowed in advance were ratified, and for all remaining invoices, the Clerk-Treasurer was authorized to make payment.

Vendors Accounts Payable Docket:

General Fund, \$194,618.69; Motor Vehicle Highway and Street (MVH) Fund, \$43,944.48; Law Enforcement Training and Supply Fund, \$2,493.14; FSA Agency Fund, \$1,034.56; Insurance Premium Fund, \$143,032.73; Information and Communications Technology Fund, \$6,902.90; Solid Waste District Grant Fund, \$585.96; Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund, \$995.00; Traffic Violations and Law Enforcement Agency Fund, \$5,926.00; Gaming Revenue Sharing Fund, \$33,427.41; Corporation Capital Fund, \$3,720.00; Total: \$436,680.87.

Payroll Docket for payday of February 06, 2015:

Council, Boards and Commissions, \$0.00; Office of Clerk-Treasurer, \$14,312.79; Building and Inspection Department, \$7,631.74; Metropolitan Police Department, \$108,195.37; Fire Department, \$3,222.94; Public Works Department (Agency), \$64,582.05 and 1925 Police Pension Plan Pension Fund, \$0.00; Total Payroll: \$197,944.89.

Payroll Docket for payday of February 20, 2015:

Council, Boards and Commissions, \$8,541.51; Office of Clerk-Treasurer, \$13,851.38; Building and Inspection Department, \$7,683.14; Metropolitan Police Department, \$99,350.78; Fire Department, \$3,298.20; Public Works Department (Agency), \$71,561.12 and 1925 Police Pension Plan Pension Fund, \$63,417.12 Total Payroll: \$267,703.25.

Adjournment. Councilor Zemen moved that the plenary meeting be adjourned. Councilor Vassar seconded. Upon a vote *viva voce*, the motion passed. The regular plenary meeting of the Town Council of Monday, March 09, 2015 was adjourned at 7:41 O'clock p.m. No study session followed the plenary meeting. An Executive Session convened at 8:00 p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/CPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer